



COMMANDER'S PHILOSOPHY AND GUIDANCE



It is my honor to serve with you at MATSG-21. I look forward to addressing the many challenges that we will overcome as a team. I am eager to learn from each one of you as we prepare Marines for the challenges they will face in the FMF and the ever-changing security environment.

While the past years have seen a reduction in forces deployed to Afghanistan and Iraq, the world is not at peace. Near-peer competitors with revisionist aspirations, in addition to non-state actors, place an enormous demand on our operational forces. Now more than ever, our nation depends on us to deliver Marines ready to deploy and win. We will ensure that we continue to produce the most highly trained Marines, equipped with the skills necessary for success on the battlefield.

Commander's Philosophy: We are warfighters and leaders. We will set the example by what we do, and of equal importance, do not do. We will make the uncomfortable right decision, over the convenient wrong. We will treat the Marines and Sailors in our charge with dignity and respect, while holding them to the highest standards of the Marine Corps. We will remember the awesome responsibility entrusted to us by our nation. We will remember that every day is one day closer to the next conflict. We will stay focused on the harsh reality that once hostilities begin, our adversaries will not give us additional time to train.

Commander's Guidance: My guidance to you is nested in the direction we have received from the Commandant and the Commanding General of Training Command. We will focus on four key areas:

- 1. Production and Resources:** We will look for ways to improve production with our finite resources. Our actions should be bound by the following question: How does this make us better? Re-examine everything we do. Divest from activities that distract from your mission. Invest in activities that make us more lethal and efficient.
- 2. Transformation:** The instruction provided by MATSG-21 is highly technical. But we will not lose sight of the fact that we are an integral part of the transformation process from entry level Marine, to warfighting member of the FMF. I expect you to balance the technical demands of our MOS training with the requirement to cement the ethos of our warfighting organization.
- 3. Innovation:** The Commandant's guidance was clear. We will become a 21st century learning center. In support of this goal, we shall also strive to become a 21st century Headquarters. I expect you to move out and draw fire in pursuit of this goal.
- 4. Professional Instructor Cadre:** The Marines assigned to MATSG-21 deserve the best instruction that we can provide them. This begins with us. Strive for improvement. Do not become complacent. Train your replacement to be as good, if not better, than you.

I am excited for our future in Training Command. We have the opportunity to shape the future of the Marine Corps by training the next generation of warfighters. Continue to work hard. Prioritize your efforts and tell me how I can help.

Semper Fidelis,

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